

Half of '10 Men Join Fraternities in 2006

Only Three Upperclassmen Decide to Pledge

By Manisha Padi

Three upperclassmen and about half of male freshmen decided to pledge a fraternity during this fall's rush. About 80 percent of the 355 freshmen who were offered bids accepted, according to statistics provided by the Interfraternity Council. A total of 441 bids were given out, and 37 freshmen still have open bids.

This year's yield rate is very similar to that of the last two years, but the actual number of pledges has gone up, partly because of a larger freshman class. Last year, 444 bids were given out and 255 of the 320 bids given to freshmen were accepted by this time last year, a yield of about 80 percent. Of the 34 upperclassmen receiving bids last year, 30 pledged fraternities, as reported in *The Tech*.

Phi Delta Theta, with 22 pledges, was one of the most successful fraternities during this year's rush. As

of Sunday, Phi Sigma Kappa had 20 pledges, Beta Theta Pi had three pledges, and Tau Epsilon Phi had zero pledges, according to Ryan E. Young '08, a rush chair for PSK.

"We had a different philosophy this year," said Young. "We had a bad rush last year, so doing well this year was important. We were very focused from the get-go and had a strong presence on campus throughout orientation." He felt their most successful rush event was the popular canoeing trip for prospective brothers.

"The trips were the best part of rush," said Christopher J. Jarrette '10, a pledge at Alpha Delta Phi. "I love getting to know the brothers, and of course, I appreciate the free food."

The Clearinghouse system,

Rush, Page 10



GHEORGHE CHISTOL

Students enjoy free food in Lobby 10 on Friday, Sept. 15. The snacks were part of an inauguration ceremony for the new Building 10 Lounge (former Cashier's Office).

Vest Sole Candidate For President

President Emeritus Nominated as President of National Academy

By Joyce Kwan

The nominating committee of the National Academy of Engineering unanimously approved Charles M. Vest, MIT's president emeritus, to be the sole candidate for presidency of the NAE. Members of the NAE will vote in March 2007 to select the president, whose term will begin on July 1, 2007, according to an NAE press release.

If Vest wins, he will take the place of William A. Wulf, who has served as president of the NAE for two consecutive terms. Each NAE presidential term lasts six years and bylaws of the NAE prohibit anyone from running for a third term. Although Vest is the sole candidate at present, other candidates may still be added to the ballot until Jan. 15, 2007, as stated in the press release.

"I have great admiration for

Charles Vest and all that he has done for MIT," Wulf said in a phone interview. "I am pleased as can possibly be that he is running for president."

Vest, 65, served as MIT's 15th president from 1990 – 2004. In a 2003 *Tech* interview, Vest said that he hoped his future would involve "national affairs, policy affairs, maybe ... a little bit more work for the non-

profit center one way or another."

Vest's presidency, the third longest of any MIT president, was marked by several high-profiled student deaths that led to dramatic changes in MIT student life and a dot-com era building boom that led to the start of several construction projects.

Vest, Page 13



DARTHUR PETRON

Leading the presentation for the Soldier Design Competition kick-off, SDC coordinator Kurt L. Keville '90 reviews the challenges for this year's competition. In addition to the six prescribed challenges, participants may also submit "write-in" concepts.

MIT Alum Dutchin Jailed After Clubbing Detective

By Cara Buckley

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

If there truly is a fine line between genius and madness, Gavin A. Dutchin '90 crossed it often and with little warning. For the very mind that drove Dutchin's successes, making him his immigrant family's brightest hope and winning him degrees from elite schools, seemed to betray him unexpectedly, time and again.

Dutchin, 38, is being treated in the mental health unit at the Rikers Island jail after being accused of smashing an off-duty New York City detective in the head with a lead pipe in the East Village on Sept. 9. The attack left the detective, Sgt. Kenny Roe, 40, with cerebral hemorrhaging and a gash that needed 14 stitches before he left the hospital. It was also unprovoked, the police said.

At first glance, Dutchin's actions, as described by the police, seem baffling.

A graduate of the prestigious Brooklyn Technical High School, Dutchin had two bachelor's degrees, in math and physics, from MIT and a once-promising Wall Street career. In January, he earned a master's in economics from New York University.

But demons had long plagued Dutchin, who moved with his parents at 14 from Guyana to the Jamaica section of Queens.

As a boy, Dutchin seemed decades older. His sister Loraine Dutchin said he was like a solemn, pensive man trapped in the body of a child. He had no friends, preferring the companionship of calculus and physics books. His parents shushed their five other children so that Dutchin, their youngest and brightest, could study. The boy stuffed a towel under his bedroom door, Loraine Dutchin said, to seal out any noise. Long after his

Dutchin, Page 9

Princeton Follows Harvard, Banning Early Admissions

By Alan Finder

THE NEW YORK TIMES

High school seniors begin a new college application season amid growing signs that the nation's top colleges and universities have deep misgivings about the sanity and fairness of the annual admissions frenzy.

A week after Harvard abandoned early admissions as a program that puts low-income students at a disadvantage, Princeton followed suit on Monday, saying it hoped other universities would do the same. "I think it's important for there to be momentum, because I think it's the right decision," said Shirley M. Tilghman, Princeton's president.

Their moves come after the presidents of Amherst, Williams, Swarthmore, Barnard, and seven other selective liberal arts colleges, usually fierce competitors for students, also put early admissions on the table for discussion at a two-day session in June in which they voiced their profound unease about the world they helped create.

At the meeting in New York, the presidents said they spelled out their concerns on everything from families' paying of thousands of dollars for private college counselors, to obstacles for low-income applicants, to the tactics some colleges use to

Princeton, Page 16

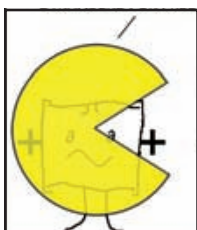
In Short

¶ The Massachusetts state primary elections will be held today. Polls will be open from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. For polling locations, see page 21.

The Republican primary is competitive only in the Senate, with Kenneth G. Chase running against Kevin P. Scott. The Democratic primary is competitive in the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, and Clerk of Court races.

¶ The W20 Reading Room will hold an opening celebration Thursday at 4 p.m. in the Moran Lounge on the fifth floor of the Student Center. Food and music will be provided.

Send news information and tips to news@the-tech.mit.edu



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WORLD & NATION

Afghan Suicide Bombs Kills 18, Including 4 Canadian Soldiers

By Carlotta Gall and Abdul Waheed Wafa

THE NEW YORK TIMES KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

Afghanistan was hit by three devastating suicide bomb attacks on Monday, killing 18 people and wounding more than 60, many of them children, in one of the country’s worst days of violence against civilians.

Four Canadian soldiers were killed in one explosion, when a suicide bomber on a bicycle set off a bomb as the soldiers were handing out gifts to children in a village in southern Afghanistan.

Eleven other soldiers were wounded as well as 27 villagers, many of them children, local government officials said.

The bombing was in the southern village of Char Kota, in Pashmul, one of the areas that NATO troops had only just wrested from the control of Taliban fighters after two weeks of heavy fighting.

The NATO commander in Afghanistan, Lt. Gen. David Richards, declared victory in the area on Sunday, saying that NATO had taken control of the area and had forced out the remaining Taliban fighters.

Pope’s Regrets Over Statement Fail To Quiet a Storm of Protests

By Ian Fisher

THE NEW YORK TIMES ROME

Many Muslims insisted Monday that Pope Benedict XVI did not go far enough in his apology on Sunday for the offense caused by a speech he gave last week that discussed Islam and holy war.

In the southern Iraqi city of Basra, protesters burnt an effigy of the pope, and an Iraqi group linked to al-Qaida posted a warning on a Web site threatening war against “worshippers of the cross.”

The supreme leader in Iran, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, called the pope’s remarks “the latest link” in the “chain of conspiracy to set off a crusade.”

And, as a Vatican official said its ambassadors would seek to better explain the pope’s statement, a Turkish man with a fake gun tried to storm a Protestant church in Turkey’s capital, Ankara. He was arrested after worshippers trapped him in the church entryway.

Apart from the continuing anger at the pope’s speech, in which he cited a medieval passage that called Islam “evil and inhuman,” the debate on Monday seemed to turn on whether the pope had actually apologized.

Man Charged With Smuggling Asian Cats in a Carry-On

By Jennifer Steinhauer

THE NEW YORK TIMES LOS ANGELES

Long before there were snakes on a plane, there were leopards in a carry-on and monkeys down a pair of pants, according to a federal indictment handed down in Southern California on Monday.

Chris Mulloy, a 45-year-old Palm Springs man, was arrested on charges related to the smuggling of two Asian leopard cats into the Los Angeles International Airport in 2002 after he returned from Asia. According to the indictment, Mulloy came into the United States with concealed leopards and passed them off to his sister, Darlah Kaye Mulloy, who was also named in the indictment, with the goal of getting them out of the airport undetected.

When questioned by officials from the federal Fish and Wildlife Service, Mulloy said he possessed no animals, even though he “well knew that statement was false, in that defendant knew that he possessed two protected Asian leopard cats (Prionailurus bengalensis) when he entered the United States,” according to the indictment.

One of the cats is now living in Orange Country and the other lives in Texas.

Iran’s Freeze on Enrichment Could Wait, France Suggests

By Elaine Sciolino

THE NEW YORK TIMES PARIS

In an effort to jump-start formal negotiations between six world powers and Iran over its nuclear program, President Jacques Chirac of France suggested on Monday that Iran would not have to freeze major nuclear activities until the talks began.

Over the years, Chirac consistently has taken an extremely hard line against Iran in both public and private. But his remarks in a radio interview could be interpreted as a concession to Iran, whose officials have said they will not suspend their production of enriched uranium as demanded by the U.N. Security Council.

“Iran and the six countries together, we must first find an agenda for negotiations, then start a negotiation,” Chirac told Europe 1 radio. “During this negotiation I propose that on the one hand, the six refrain from referring the issue to the Security Council, and that Iran refrain from uranium enrichment during the duration of the negotiation.”

But, in a sign of how fluid the maneuvering over how to rein in Iran’s

nuclear ambitions has become, Chirac’s comments were just ambiguous enough for multiple interpretations.

In New York for the opening of the U.N. General Assembly, Bush administration officials insisted that the American position has not changed: that United States will not join the talks until Iran suspends uranium enrichment. After reading the text of Chirac’s remarks, a senior administration official, who spoke on the condition of anonymity, said he did not believe that Chirac had said the United States would sit down to talks until Iran suspends enrichment.

“To tell you the truth, there’s no suggestion being made that we would sit down with Iran before they suspend,” the official said.

The formal position of the six world powers is that Iran must freeze uranium enrichment activities as a condition of the start of negotiations.

What is under discussion, the official and other European diplomats said, is for Javier Solana, the European Union’s chief diplomat, to continue talks with the chief Iranian negotiator, Ali Larijani, about the conditions for suspension. In the meantime, the United States would

continue to try to draw up a sanctions resolution in the Security Council.

If Solana and Larijani can agree on conditions for a suspension, American and European diplomats said, the United States could join the talks at the same time that Iran suspended enrichment. That approach, the diplomats said, could be a face-saving way for all sides to pretend they did not make big concessions.

Chirac’s remarks were the first time a leader of one of the six countries — the five permanent members of the Security Council (Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States) and Germany — has suggested that the suspension is not a precondition for talks.

Clearly, Chirac’s remarks took Bush administration officials by surprise, in particular because ever since the six powers made a proposal to Iran on June 1 to provide a package of incentives in return for suspending enrichment, the Americans and the Europeans have been careful to appear unified. Russia and China might have to be dragged along, the thinking went, but the others would hold fast to the American line on sanctions.

Salmon Concerns Delay Pipeline For Russian Liquid Natural Gas

By Andrew E. Kramer

THE NEW YORK TIMES MOSCOW

Citing damage to salmon rivers on the Sakhalin Island, the Russian government on Monday withdrew environmental approval for the largest private energy investment in the country, the Royal Dutch Shell-operated Sakhalin-2 liquefied natural gas project.

The move, while foreshadowed by Russian government statements in recent weeks, came as a significant setback to the \$20 billion energy development work that is currently employing 17,000 people on the island and is presented by Shell as the world’s largest combined oil and natural gas drilling project.

Liquefied natural gas from Sakhalin-2 has already been sold in futures contracts for delivery in 2008, including shipments to the West Coast of the United States; it was unclear

whether Monday’s decision would force delays to accommodate new environmental studies on a pipeline that is nearly finished.

The complex development straddles the coastline on the northern rim of the island, with offshore platforms, a liquefied natural gas plant, and hundreds of miles of pipeline snaking toward an ice-free port in the south, near Japan. It has had its share of skeptics among conservationists; earlier criticism prompted a delay to safeguard gray whale feeding grounds.

This time, oil analysts in Moscow said the environmental ruling looked more like a maneuver by the Russian government to renegotiate terms or force Shell to sell a stake to Gazprom, the state natural gas company, on favorable terms. The ruling came amid a tense business dispute between the Anglo-Dutch oil major and Gazprom.

It remained unclear, analysts said, whether the decision was a limited attempt to bring Gazprom into the Sakhalin-2 project, or signaled the beginning of a more sweeping revision of the production sharing deals that brought foreign companies to Sakhalin Island in the 1990s.

The island, a ribbon of sub-Arctic land off Russia’s east coast, and the surrounding seas hold more oil than the remaining deposits in the North Sea. Nearly untapped now, the island’s resources could help shape energy markets in Japan, Korea, and China for decades.

The ruling by Rosprirodnadzor, the state regulator, revoked a 2003 environmental approval for the Sakhalin-2 project, according to a posting on the agency’s Web site; before the ruling can take effect, it must be cleared by a second Russian government agency, according to the statement.

WEATHER

In the Throes of Autumn

By Tim Whitcomb
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Although the month as a whole has been cooler than normal, temperatures have been above 70°F for the past five days and have remained above 65°F for the entire month of September. If you have denied the onset of fall, this may be one of the last glimpses of summer.

Precipitation levels in Boston are almost 1.3 inches below normal, but a large cyclone moving across the continent threatens to bring some possibly heavy rain to the area. Satellite imagery shows a very long front sweeping across the eastern Midwest associated with some heavy rains but very little severe weather at press time. The National Weather Service’s Boston office reports that the numerical models differ on the timing of the frontal passage, but it will most likely occur late tomorrow so it should not hold down the maximum temperature, leading to another day in the 70s°F with showers later.

In the tropics, Hurricanes Gordon and Helene are in the Atlantic. Gordon is set to weaken as it heads toward northern Spain and the British Isles while the much stronger Helene remains out to sea and currently only poses a danger to fish and ships.

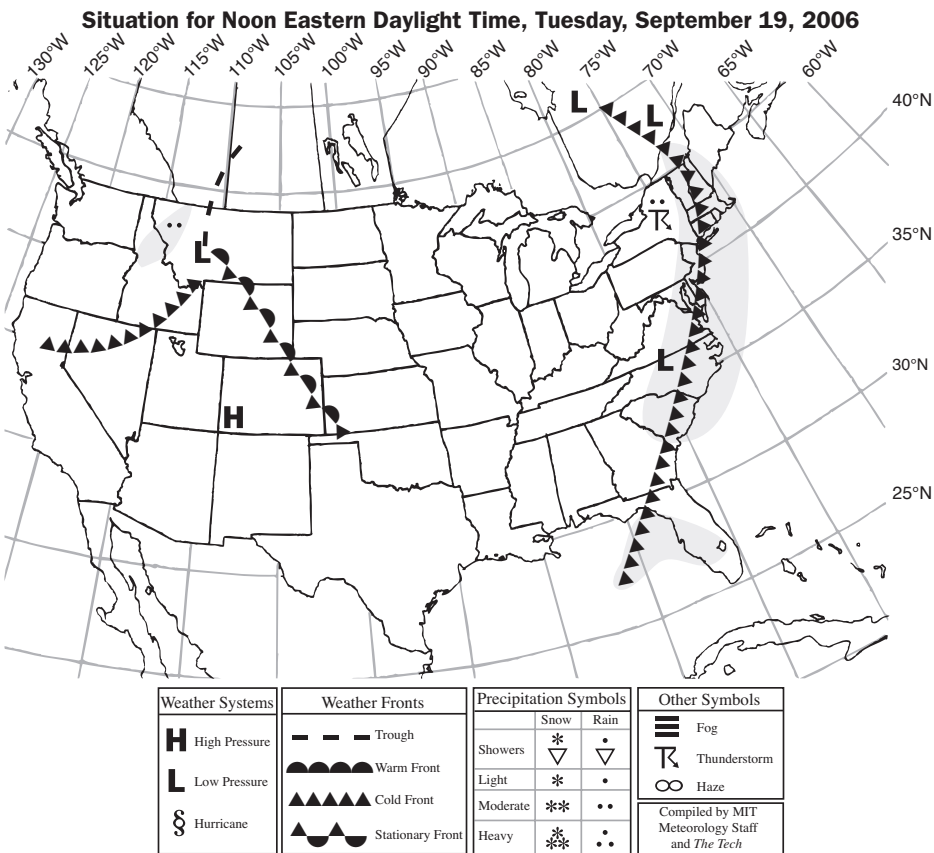
Extended Forecast

Today: Some clouds, moderate wind. 77°F (25°C).

Tonight: Lots of clouds, gusty wind, and rain. 56°F (13°C).

Wednesday: Some clouds, early rain but warming. 69°F (20°C).

Wednesday night: Clear and cooler with some wind. 52°F (11°C).



Attacks in Iraq Leave Many Dead as Talks Pause on Autonomy

By Richard A. Oppel Jr.
and Abdul Razzaq al-Saiedi

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Suicide bombers attacked a market in Tal Afar and the Iraqi police in Ramadi on Monday, killing at least 23 people, as political leaders in the capital struggled to reach a deal that would end the fight over splitting Iraq into autonomous states.

The worst attack was in Tal Afar, where a bomber wearing an explosive vest killed 21 people and wounded 17 others when he blew himself up near a line of people waiting to receive their allotment of cooking fuel, according to Iraqi state television.

Tal Afar, a dusty, agrarian city of a quarter-million in northwestern Iraq, has been the scene of fierce battles over the past two years as American troops have fought to wrest control of the area from groups affiliated with al-Qaida and from other insurgents.

Two suicide bombs struck the police in Ramadi, the restive capital of Anbar province west of Baghdad. News agencies quoted Iraqi officials as saying that 13 people had been killed. But an American military spokeswoman said U.S. forces in the area had counted two dead, both Iraqi policemen.

Early Tuesday morning, the American military released statements disclosing two new combat deaths: One soldier killed by a roadside bomb in northeastern Baghdad on Sunday afternoon, and another killed by small-arms fire in north-central Baghdad, also on Sunday afternoon.

Negotiators from major Iraqi po-

litical blocs met late Monday in an effort to resolve the bitter fight over how soon Shiite provinces in the south can break off into autonomous regions with substantial control over their security and the billions of barrels of oil beneath southern Iraq.

A faction of Shiites and Kurds led by the Supreme Council for Islamic Revolution in Iraq, or SCIRI, a powerful Shiite party with close ties to Iran, proposed a compromise on Monday, according to an adviser to Khalid al-Atiya, a deputy parliament speaker and one of the negotiators for the faction.

The SCIRI faction wants to pass a bill in parliament that would give provinces a quick route to forming autonomous regions, which are allowed by the new constitution's "federalism" provisions.

But furious Sunni Arab leaders say the constitution might not have even been approved in last October's referendum had it not been for their last-minute support. And they gave that support only after a provision was added that called for portions of the constitution to be renegotiated as soon as parliament was called into session. But that has not happened.

Under the new proposal, according to the aide to al-Atiya, parliament would form a committee to propose constitutional amendments, as sought by the Sunnis. At the same time, parliament would proceed with the federalism proposal backed by SCIRI and the Kurds, but the law would not become effective for one year, or until after the constitutional committee finished deciding whether to propose amendments.

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Candidates must submit their resume, unofficial transcript, and SAT scores **TODAY** through MIT MonsterTRAK.

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Corrections

“Crazy For You,” reviewed in the Sept. 15 issue, was produced by J. Michael Spencer, not J. Michael Stern.

The Sept. 15 review “Undergrad Talent Shines in Architecture Exhibition” mistakenly identified Jihee Han '08 as a designer of an MIT Visiting Arts Pavilion. The actual designer is Ji-Hye Ham '08. Also, Diana Nee '07, not Diane Lee '07, is the designer of a North End Rooftop House.

Letters To The Editor

Quorum Needed For Legitimacy

I have no doubt that you will receive many vociferous responses to the article “Simmons Funds Can Still Be Used to Hire Strippers”. While I am sure much of the indignation over the poor taste of the organizers is merited, I'd like to make a more mundane point regarding Simmons' constitution. Why on earth don't they require a quorum?

As an alumnus of the fraternity system here at MIT, I can personally attest to the usefulness of requiring that a certain percentage of the vot-

ing members be present for passing legislation. Obviously, the potential downside of a quorum is that the government might not be able to pass any legislation, which I would point out may not be such a bad thing considering the current circumstances.

I would recommend that Simmons consider adding a quorum rule to their constitution. If the required level of participation cannot be met, then that will say something important about what type of community the dormitory really is and therefore what type of governing body its students should have. Simmons' constitution makes the case that the dormitory should be a community (the “House”) much

like those found in the fraternity and sorority systems here at MIT. Therefore, the constitution is written with such a community in mind. If Simmons really is the community that its constitution writers envisioned, then making quorum should be not be a problem. But, if quorum cannot be met and the government becomes powerless, then the dormitory should rewrite its constitution so as to be appropriate to whatever their actual living situation may be: a group of people with shared interests living together, rather than a group of people who are pursuing common ideals and consider themselves part of a greater whole.

M. Scott Bradley G

Re-engineering the HASS Requirement For Today's Needs

By Justin Wong

Early in my academic program, I welcomed the humanities requirement as a break from my engineering and math courses, but through the years I have come to curse it for diverting my focus from the rigorous technical classes essential to my career development. After all, I came to MIT to be an engineer. While a curriculum with a humanities component undoubtedly promotes a desirably broader personal worldview, the eight-subject HASS requirement overestimates the HASS exposure necessary for such spiritual growth. HASS should complement, not detract from the engineering education most students come here to receive.

It is often argued that eight HASS classes are needed to help MIT students become well-rounded. But is the deficiency in “well-roundedness” among students at the Institute large enough to warrant that many HASS subjects? The admissions office has already filled the stages, playing fields, courts, dance floors, publication offices, arenas, rehearsal rooms, and student governments of MIT and hundreds of other activities with students who pursue interests outside the classroom. Perhaps our technical intensity makes our other interests seem paltry by comparison. But in an absolute sense, we are not wanting in pursuits outside academics. Eight HASS courses far exceed the amount necessary to remedy a deficiency that isn't as large as humanities proponents believe it to be.

Besides, the marginal benefit of additional humanities subjects decreases beyond a certain number of classes, which I believe eight far overshoots. After the initial novelty wears off, HASS becomes just another time sink, like taking showers, that is simply not taken that seriously.

Development of communication skills is cited as another reason for the current HASS requirement. However, the solution does not address the problem. The two required communications intensive (CI-H) classes do not even cultivate the kind of communication useful in industry. Writing about plays and foreign policy, for example, is very different from writing memos to technical colleagues or giving presentations to clients. The other six humanities courses may offer opportunities for class discussion and sundry written work, but the subject matter, and not development as a communicator, is the primary focus in those classes. Class discussions where the

word “like” peppers everyone's speech does not improve speaking ability. If the goal is to teach communication, then teach communication, not some other topic in the hope that oratorical prowess will spontaneously appear.

Gaining a broader, more critical view of the world is another oft-advanced argument for the current HASS requirement. It's a noble goal, but eight classes are too many. MIT students are already involved in many pursuits outside of class and during summers that introduce them to new ways of seeing things. Even a job in industry will teach students about diversity in the workplace and the business culture supporting the engines of productivity. Interaction with colleagues of different generations is sure to be an eye-opener as well. There is also irony in the idea that students must be taught critical thinking. How can students develop the capacity for independent judgment when other frameworks for thought are forced upon them? HASS should provide oc-

If the goal is to teach communication, then teach communication, not some other topic in the hope that oratorical prowess will spontaneously appear.

casional, limited guidance for personal development rather than a deluge of readings and ivory tower philosophizing. Besides, the MIT community already is diverse enough for students' beliefs and assumptions to be challenged outside of class.

With a more realistic appraisal of the value of HASS classes in hand, the eight-class requirement hardly seems worth the tradeoff in ability to take subjects germane to the career goals that students come here to pursue. If the humanities requirement were reduced, engineering majors, for example, could take advanced math subjects or more specialized classes in their respective fields of study to enhance their appeal to employers, graduate schools and other clients of technical expertise. The US is falling behind in technical aptitude. American companies are increasingly looking elsewhere for engineering talent; they have started research and design centers in other countries. The world is catching up and we have

to race ahead again. What's the point of having a “broad outlook” of the world if we're looking at it from underneath?

Therefore, I propose the following changes to the HASS requirement:

1. Reduce the HASS requirement from eight to four classes.
2. Of the four required HASS classes, (a) one should be a pure communications course modeled on 15.279 (Management Communication for Undergraduates), and (b) the remaining three can be of each student's choosing.
3. Eliminate the distribution and concentration requirements, which would become unnecessary given fewer classes to structure.

The four freed class slots would be reserved for student choice; faculty would be forbidden from imposing requirements. Students can use these four freed slots to take additional subjects recommended by their departments to enhance their professional skill set, to participate in hands-on activities like a UROP, to pursue a minor, to explore another major, or even to take more HASS subjects. Students who wish to take eight HASS classes can still do so without the administration forcing unwilling students to do the same.

The communication subject would teach students how to write and speak concisely, correctly, and in an organized manner, to speak with poise, to avoid filler words, to adapt to different audiences and cultures, and to create polished presentations simple in style, yet rich in content. Students would practice these skills through many drills and exercises, using video to critique speaking style and content. I learned more useful communication skills in 15.279, the class I hold up as a model, than in all my HASS classes combined.

AP credit should still not be used to fulfill the reduced humanities requirement. MIT offers a unique flavor to humanities that undergraduates should still be required to experience, but in moderation.

The proposal would still expose students to the softer subjects and provide them that cherished multi-faceted perspective, but it wouldn't do so at the expense of honing the technical edge that distinguishes MIT graduates. The communication class sharpens the focus on developing speaking and writing ability by directly teaching those skills, instead of smearing that goal across two CI-H classes whose assignments exercise those skills only incidentally.

Opinion Policy

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Dissents are the opinions of signed members of the editorial board choosing to publish their disagreement with the editorial.

Letters to the editor, columns, and editorial cartoons are written by individuals and represent the opinion of the author, not necessarily that of the newspaper. Electronic submissions are encouraged and should be sent to letters@the-tech.mit.edu. Hard copy submissions should be addressed to *The Tech*, P.O. Box 397029, Cambridge, Mass. 02139-7029, or sent by interdepartmental mail to Room W20-483. All submissions are due by 4:30 p.m. two days before the date of publication.

Letters, columns, and cartoons must bear the authors' signatures, addresses, and phone numbers. Unsigned letters will not be accepted. *The Tech* reserves the right to edit or condense letters; shorter let-

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CAMPUS LIFE

Imminent Collapse

Our Impending Doonesbury

By Bill Andrews
CAMPUS LIFE EDITOR

Even though many people become rich, famous, and/or involved in the government after leaving MIT, it is the rare freshman who arrives already famous. Unlike Harvard “Natalie Portman” University and NY “Olsen Twins” U, we were just MI “Will Smith (almost)” T for a long time. But, as anyone who’s been following the news can tell you, this is no longer the case, and we have a veritable celebrity in our midst. Well, not really in our midst, per se, but in our perception of our midst, sort of.

For the sake of all you “I’m too busy to read the news or know what’s going on anywhere” types (or, as I think of y’all, “engineers”), allow me to make things clear. Alex Doonesbury, a fictional character from the syndicated comic strip Doonesbury, is a member of MIT’s class of ‘010. There was a big hullabaloo last spring when she was deciding which college to attend via an online poll, and MIT kids hacked it and cast like eight billion votes for MIT. Cornell and whatever the other school was got mad because they lost to cheaters, but Alex decided to come to the ‘tvte anyway (where she has 44 friends, according to the Facebook). It seems, however, that she’s been having a tough time.

Last week, the story line in Doonesbury has been a series of calls Alex made to her dad, Mike, trying to get him to take care of some problem for her. When she has trouble with her first pset, or she didn’t get into the HASS-D she wanted (and, might I add, what a strange thrill to read “HASS-D” in a newspaper other than The Tech), or her groupmate is storing mold in the common room fridge, she calls home to get her dad to fix it. As an astute reader pointed out in the online Doonesbury forum, since Mike is wearing the same outfit in each comic, the implication is that Alex has been making her calls on the same day.

Let us, for a moment, consider this portrayal of an MIT student as a scared, unresourceful kid. Granted, it’s realistic and we’ve all been there and it’s just a phase and all, but we know that; does the rest of the world? Thanks to Alex’s difficulties, MIT’s facade of monolithic smarts may begin to chip away. I feel like we have such a mystique of impenetrable intelli-

gence that it seems a shame to expose us as mere mortals after all, like it’s watering down what it means to be@mit.edu.

I felt the same way when a cannon magically showed up on the Dot. Yes, it was an unbelievably great hack, and we got ‘em good for the year before, but now look: people think there’s this long-standing rivalry between MIT and CalTech. Before CalTech ‘pranked’ us (by handing out shirts and leaving some inflatable palms around), we didn’t really care about them. Sure, we knew of their work and were suitably impressed and all, but a rivalry? As if we were equals? Please. Now we can expect more interaction with them and have either descended to their level or raised them to ours, depending on how much water is in your glass. Either way, MIT was left less ‘in a class by itself,’ which is how I always thought of us.

On the other hand, perhaps Alex’s humanization of MIT is just what the PhD ordered. When we’re revealed as human, there’s less pressure on us to do the impossible, to live up to some amazing standard. Realizing that we’re not just a bunch of math and science nerds, more people might start applying, increasing the diversity (and thus overall quality) of our populace. And, non-trivially, the world in general might start to see that we can actually be cool, interesting people; to see the importance, realize that employers like to hire interesting people.

So Alex Doonesbury is showing the world how we’re like everyone else, and here I am wondering if it’s worth it. I mean, it is pretty amazingly cool. Who knows what details of campus life might show up in future strips? Will Alex declare course VI, like everyone else? Will she start talking in numbers, and missing sleep, and going to LSC? Will she become a hacker? My fiancée and I think it would be awesome if it turns out she’s living at Senior Haus, even though I think Burton-Conner’s more likely. What neat things about us will she expose to the rest of the world? Then again, what secrets about us would we prefer remain hidden?

I guess we’ll just have to wait and read about it in the papers.

The Shopaholic Beaver

What’s Your Name Again?

By Elizabeth Zakszewski
STAFF COLUMNIST

Those of you who are returning students may remember a few columns I wrote about shopping, for such essentials as laptop bags and formal dresses (which are occasionally direly needed!). I have since managed to graduate successfully with that coveted MIT degree, and as a result ... I’m now broke. Yup, you may have guessed, this means I did not get a lucrative job in the biotech industry; I have instead entered the world of grad school.

I may be several states away now, but the one thing I’ve been forced to shop for in the last couple of weeks is probably something that you brand new beavers, both first-year grad students and freshmen alike, have also been on the market for: new friends.

This commodity may not cost any money or require a trip to the mall, but it can be just as difficult to acquire. You may have been the most popular nerd in your high school, or have a dear fiancé(e) who is still an undergrad at your alma mater, but you still have to find other humans who are spatially closer to you. There’s a chance you may plan to spend all your time at a computer and never see the light of day, but more than likely you’ll have to interact with your classmates, labmates, and dormmates, find study groups, and meet people to hang out with on weekends. There’s a plethora of places to meet tons of people@MIT.edu, so it really shouldn’t be that hard. If you could only remember their names.

Now, I know I’m not the only person plagued by this problem, but for the sake of not insulting any readers, I’ll act as though I am. When I meet someone new, the very first thing I’ll find out about her is the name. That’s also, almost always, the first thing I’ll forget. Granted, I could probably tell you many other facts about her, such as her major, where she’s from, or perhaps even her favorite breakfast cereal. But see, these are all things I learn as I continue talking to a person and get to know him. The name, on the other hand, is usually recited while meeting a small circle of new people standing around, each saying his name in quick succession, while I have no other reference to associate with each person except his face. And when meeting peo-

ple this way, I’m lucky if I can remember any names at all at the end of the day.

It’s not just in large groups either. The other day I had an evening class, and upon asking a classmate if he knew how late the No. 2 bus ran, was offered a ride back to my apartment. I said thanks and we exchanged names, but by the time we’d walked to his car, I’d forgotten. This is embarrassing; you can’t ask a person to tell you his name again two minutes after meeting him, especially if he’s giving you a ride home. Now in class I have to address him indirectly, and hope at some point I’ll hear someone else address him by name.

I’ve been trying to find some cause for this phenomenon besides my own stupidity in the area of human interaction. Recently a Harvard group has used functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) to research a phenomenon called prosopagnosia in which some people are unable to recognize faces, even those of their loved ones and people they see every day (<http://www.faceblind.org/research/index.html> for more info). I had no idea such a condition existed. Perhaps my inability to match people’s names to their faces is a form of a similar, more common, and much milder brain disorder. Conveniently enough, my grad research is in a lab that does fMRI all the time. Maybe I can get a co-worker to help me find a cure! Except, I think they’re all currently busy studying autism, Alzheimer’s, cognitive disability in children, and other important stuff like that.

I guess in the meantime I’ll just have to learn to live with my little “disability”. But I leave with a message to first-years and seasoned beavers who are lucky enough to be free of this problem. Help us out! Create a more “accessible” environment by having patience, addressing people by name whenever you can while in a group, even by writing your (first) name large on papers so one can discreetly peek over your shoulder at it in class. (Yeah, I’ve developed some, uh, interesting techniques in my day). It’s an awkward process, meeting new people, but it’s even more so for those of us whose minds have an all-too-fast refresh rate when it comes to names. Trust me, many of us will be inwardly thanking you, which may help you make better friends more quickly!

Ask Nutty B!

By Bruce Wu
STAFF COLUMNIST

Nutty B is currently a graduate student at MIT who tries to give his two cents worth to his readers’ questions regarding anything and everything. Please e-mail him with whatever question you would like someone to listen to, and help give him an excuse to procrastinate at 3:00 a.m. Please send all questions to askNuttyB@yahoo.com

Dear Nutty B,
I am a sophomore this year, and classes began two weeks ago. I just realized the major I declared last year is not what I want to do at all. I don't like any of the classes I am taking from this department, but quite a few professors in this department are doing research that fascinates me. What should I do? Should I change my field?
— Stephanie

Dear Stephanie,

I think you have confused interest in a field of study with taking its classes. Wait, don’t argue with me yet, child. Yes, the classes you are taking give you a snapshot of what the department is about, but the keyword is “snapshot”. Those classes you are taking are only a subset of the department!

Have you looked into what other classes will be available to you later in your college career? Just because the classes this semester suck doesn’t mean every class you will take in this department will suck. Also, if there are professors doing research that fascinates you, why don’t you approach them to see if you can do a UROP with them to get yourself exposed to the fields that interest you? I am sure the classes you are required to take are meant to give you a broad exposure to the field and help you build a solid foundation for what you might see later on. They are by no means meant to restrict you or to tell you what’s the only thing you could do. Hey, for what it’s worth, the only class I liked when I was your age was “wine tasting,” and it didn’t end up ruining my academic career, did it?

Also, it’s only the second week of the semester, and therefore probably too early to conclude whether you will like a class. Perhaps in another week or two you will find there is a certain topic in the class you really like, or a charming and sexy TA who might pique your interest in further advancing in this particular field!

Keeping an open mind is important. Also, talking to different people to get more exposure to a broad spectrum of your department is helpful. Good luck!

Dear Nutty B,
The TA of this class I am taking is so hot, and I mean HOT. It's just the second week of the class, and the only thing I could do during the lecture was to keep staring at him. I found myself constantly thinking about going to his office hours, even when I have no questions to ask. What should I do?
— Heart Taken

Dear Heart Taken,

You aren’t in the class I am TAing, are you? Also, do you have anything to do with the box of chocolates that’s left in front of my office everyday? If so, I really prefer milk chocolate with nuts to dark chocolate. Oh, and Godiva makes good milk chocolate, so you might want to consider changing the brand! And if you aren’t, it’s never too late to start!

Either way, I have to suggest that you calm yourself down. Continually staring at someone is never a good idea nor is it polite. Also, going to someone’s office hours to talk about nothing might just waste his time and irritate him. Asking what brand of shampoo he uses and what cologne he wears every week will not get you too far, my dear!

How about you focus on the class and the lecture material rather than the TA? How about you pay attention to what problems you have to answer on your homework rather than the TA? How about finding other extracurricular activities to do to keep your mind off obsessing over your TA? If you really like him, you should get to know him *in a normal way* during the semester (bend-and-snap in every recitation doesn’t count). Who knows, perhaps after this semester you will find the attraction is mutual, but if you freak him out before the third week, it won’t get you anywhere, will it?



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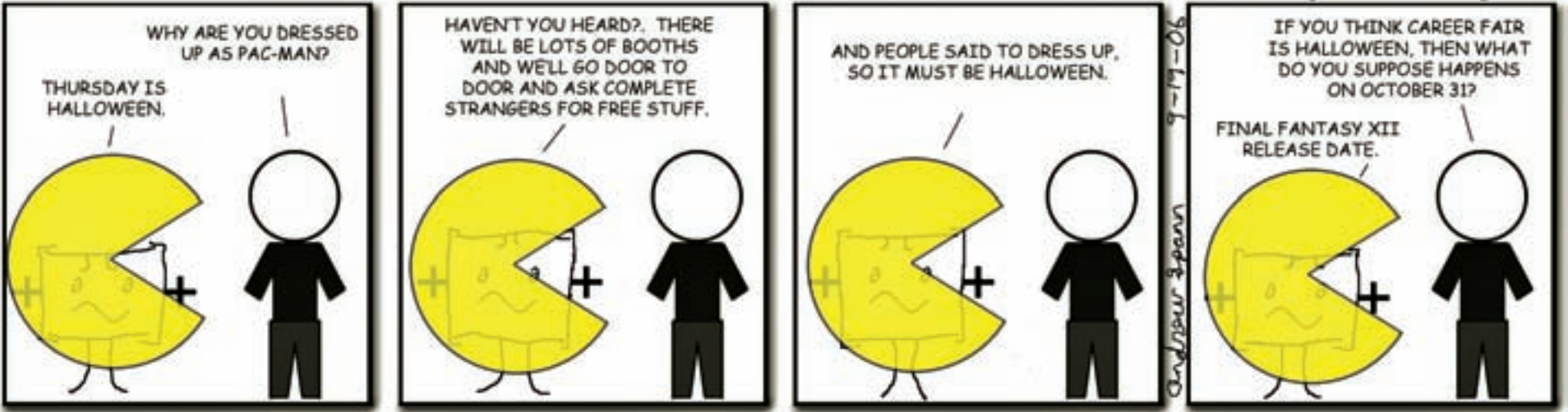
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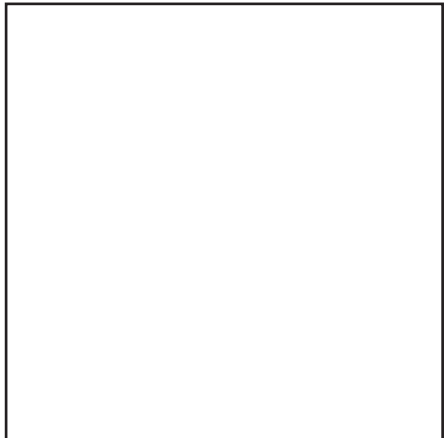


Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 22

su | do | ku


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Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column, row, and 3 by 3 grid contains exactly one of each of the digits 1 through 9. Solution, tips, and computer program at <http://www.sudoku.com>; solution also on page 14.

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Statement Date: 08/11/06 – 09/10/06
Payment Due Date: 10/10/06
Minimum Payment Due: \$125.00

Account Number: 4417 XXXX XXXX 9112

Total Credit Line	\$15,000.00
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Dutchin Known For Academics

Dutchin, from Page 1

parents and siblings went to bed, the teenage Dutchin stayed up, poring over textbooks as the clock ticked past midnight.

“He would tap his head and say, ‘What you have up here, no one can take away,’” said Loraine Dutchin, 49, who lives in Crown Heights, Brooklyn. “He was brilliant; everything he touched turned to gold. But his whole life was studying. He was so bottled up.”

Dutchin's academic prowess earned him entry into top-notch schools, and he landed a scholarship to MIT, Loraine Dutchin said. His parents, Carlyle, a nighttime security guard, and Carmen, a housecleaner, sent him whatever extra money they cobbled together so he could pay his phone bills and buy crisp new clothes.

A framed picture of Dutchin's graduation from MIT, displayed in Loraine Dutchin's living room, shows Dutchin beaming with pride, gripping the dean's hand in a firm shake.

In November 1992, he was hired as an assistant broker at Cowen & Co., an investment banking firm in Manhattan. But two years later, for reasons he kept secret from his family, Dutchin lost his job.

And then his life began to unspool.

In 1996, Carlyle Dutchin, 73, died of prostate cancer. Dutchin's mother stayed in Guyana after accompanying her husband's body there for the funeral. Dutchin had been living with his parents. Suddenly alone, he became mired in lassitude and despair.

Loraine Dutchin took her brother in, but his relationship with her family was strained at best. Though he was a quiet man, she said, he often was overcome by sudden bursts of anger. He became enraged when her two young children watched television instead of studying, she said.

One night, in the summer of 1998, a spat over the children escalated into a violent fight, Lorraine Dutchin said, and he shoved her to the ground, repeatedly kicking her. Her daughter, Arielle, who was 6 at the time, called 911, sobbing hysterically. “My uncle’s going to kill my mother,” Lorraine Dutchin recalls her daughter saying.

The police arrived but Loraine Dutchin would not press charges. Still, she refused to let Dutchin stay in her home. For two years, Dutchin

drifted through Manhattan, homeless, sleeping in doorways and shelters and spending his days immersed in books at Barnes & Noble. Dutchin said he sometimes stood in the park across the street from her home, staring mournfully, but then would disappear.

Dutchin began running afoul of the law. He was charged with turnstile jumping in February 1999, and with resisting arrest that summer, though details of that episode are not clear. He was taken to Bellevue Hospital Center, where he was treated for tuberculosis and spent three months in a psychiatric ward. He began taking antipsychotic medicine. When Lorraine Dutchin went to visit him, she said that her brother's face crumpled, and that he whispered, "I'm sorry, I'm sorry," as the two embraced.

After Dutchin's release, he was enrolled in a psychiatric treatment program run by FECS, the former Federal Employment and Guidance Service. Community Access, a housing and advocacy agency for the mentally ill, placed him in an apartment at 12th Street and Avenue A.

Stable once more, Dutchin let his intelligence shine through, and he tutored high school and college students, all the while dreaming of returning to graduate school. In 2001, *The New York Times* profiled him as part of its Neediest Cases series.

Dutchin's prospects seem to brighten. He was a quiet presence in his apartment building, neighbors said, always well-dressed and polite. Almost every Sunday, he rode the No. 2 subway to Loraine Dutchin's home in Brooklyn, where she served him his favorite home-cooked meal, baked snapper with okra and callaloo. Yet Loraine Dutchin said she still saw anger simmering beneath the surface. "I could tell something was wrong," she said. "His eyes were wild."

Dutchin stopped visiting Loraine Dutchin about a year ago, and he began visiting another sister, Olive Dutchin, from whom Loraine Dutchin says she is estranged. Yet he seemed to stay out of trouble, and enrolled at NYU.

It is not clear how Dutchin, who could not be reached for this article, paid the tuition. (His lawyer, David Affler, refused to let him be interviewed.) But in January 2006, he earned his long-dreamed-of master's degree.

And then, it seemed, Dutchin began to drift again. This summer,

the police searched for him after he vanished from his East Village apartment, though he reappeared after several days. Two weeks ago, he saw his mother, who was visiting from Guyana. Carmen Dutchin said she was horrified by how thin her son appeared. "He studied too hard," she said.

Less than a week later, just before 11 a.m. on Sept. 9, a gloriously sunny day, Roe, 41, the off-duty detective, set off down East 14th Street with his cousin toward a diner. They had just passed Third Avenue when Roe felt a bright, shattering crack, as loud as thunder, across the back of his head.

Roe and his cousin grappled with the assailant for the pipe. They wrested it from him, and police officers arrived and arrested Dutchin. And Roe, alert but dizzy and bleeding, leaned against a wall and sank slowly to the ground.

The last challenge of a socially conscious society?

Depression strikes millions— indiscriminately. Depression is simply a suppression of brain activity that makes life unbearable. And even though depression is readily treatable, only 1 in 5 ever seeks treatment. Why do so many just drag themselves along or eventually seek relief through suicide? First, there's the lack of awareness of depression— as an illness and as the threat that it is to each and every one of us. Second, there's the unwarranted negative stigma attached to it. You know, the 'mental' thing. It's time to collectively face depression. To know it's an illness, not a weakness. And it's a challenge that's long overdue. It's taken too many of us already.

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UNTREATED DEPRESSION

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Updated Rush Rules Get Positive Reviews

Rush, from Page 1

which allows fraternities to track the whereabouts of prospective pledges, was still controversial among fraternities and pledges. “Many people I know thought it was odd, but I never had a problem with it,” said John R. Walk ’10, a pledge at Zeta Psi. Jarrette agreed, calling the Clearinghouse system “creepy” at first, but said that he soon became used to it. Both agreed that the “no camping” rule was a good thing. The rule was instituted this year to prevent fraternity members from going to other houses to invite freshmen to their own fraternity’s activities.

“The ban on camping changed the face of rush,” said Young. “It was a lot more important this year that fraternities make a personal connection with rushees.” This year also saw the removal of the gag rule, allowing brothers to reveal their affiliation if it is a natural response to a question. It is “a lot less awkward when you can tell people where you live,” Young said.

Pledges and fraternities seem to agree that overall, rush was a positive experience.

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Set up a recycling bin for aluminum cans and one for bottles. And when you're in the bathroom brushing your teeth or washing your face, don't let the faucet run. Remember, if we use fewer resources today, we'll save more for tomorrow. Which would truly be a job well done.

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September 19, 2006

4 – 6 PM

14E – 304

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For more information contact:

Joanne Straggas joanne@mit.edu or
Malgorzata Hedderick malrh@mit.edu

Vest to Choose NAE Initiatives If Picked as Academy President

Vest, from Page 1

Faculty and student diversity was an important issue during Vest's term.

"Our educational system must better serve an increasingly pluralistic society," he said in 1990 in his inaugural address. "Efforts to attract women and students of color and to provide an environment in which they can successfully complete their education must continue and grow increasingly effective."

According to the NAE press release, Vest was "a member of the bipartisan Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction ... led a U.S. Department of Energy task force on the future of science programs ... and chaired a presidential advisory commission on the redesign of the International Space Station in 1992-1994."

The NAE, founded in 1964, is part of the National Academy of Sciences, which was established by President Lincoln in 1863. A "private, independent, nonprofit institution," as the NAE Web site states, the institute advises the federal government on and "conducts independent studies to examine important topics in engineering and technology."

The president of the NAE "chooses initiatives for the institute to undertake," NAE public relations officer Randy Atkins said in a phone interview.

Vest became a member of the NAE in 1993 due to "technical and educational contributions to holographic interferometry and leadership as an educator," according to the NAE press release. He holds a BS in mechanical engineering from West Virginia University, an MS and PhD from the University in Michigan, and

10 honorary degrees including one from MIT. When Vest assumed the presidency in 1990, hackers welcomed him to the Institute by hiding his office door behind a fake bulletin board.



TECH FILE PHOTO
Former MIT President Charles M. Vest addresses the Undergraduate Association in late 2003.

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Committee on Campus Race Relations Grants Program

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Solution to Sudoku
from page 6

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69% of undergraduates* at MIT report that if they were to hold a dorm party, they would most likely register it. Registering your party is really to protect you, your community, and to make your events safer, more enjoyable and more successful.

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* MIT Campus Alcohol Advisory Board (CAAB), CCPI Survey 2006.

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Wednesday, September 20, 2006
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Cambridge Marriott, Kendall Square

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Admission Procedure To Change For Many Universities, Colleges

Princeton, from Page 1

rise in the *US News & World Report* rankings. They spoke of efforts to drive up a college's number of applications, so it can turn away a greater proportion of students and appear more selective, or to distribute merit aid to lure students who are top notch but not financially needy.

"It just feels ugly, the way it is now," said one of the participants, Robert Weisbuch, the president of Drew University in Madison, N.J., while reviewing the sessions a few weeks later. "How do we remain competitive, which is a good thing in many ways, and yet at the same time try to make more rational and less fetishized this whole process for students and families?"

"Some of the behavior that institutions engage in is quite unbelievable," said Patrick T. Harker, dean of the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania. "There are perverse behaviors that get generated where people do things to drive the rankings."

Some colleges and universities have already taken action on their own. Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa., said last month that its senior executives would no longer participate in an annual survey sent out by *US News*, which asks university officials to assess other colleges.

At Amherst College, officials increased the number of working-class and low-income students in the freshman class that enrolled weeks ago from 15 percent to 20 percent.

The University of Delaware said in May that it would eliminate early admission. Princeton, in announcing its decision on Monday, said it agreed with Harvard that early admissions forced low-income students to commit to the university before they could compare financial aid offers from various universities.

"It's the right decision for universities in terms of equity," Tilghman said. "It's the right decision for the high school students, for their parents and for their guidance counselors, who have found the two-tier system to be fraught with complexity and that has encouraged a gaming of the system that I don't think is good for any of us." Princeton's decision will affect the class entering in 2008. In addition, each year officials from a loose association of 40 small, less well-known liberal arts colleges tour the country together, marketing their colleges as alternatives to high-pressure, high prestige institutions. The event is known as the Colleges that Change Lives tour, after a book with that title by Loren Pope that was published in 1996 and was reissued this year in a revised version.

"I'm not a believer in selectivity," Pope, a former private college counselor, said. "I think it's phony."

"Now everybody is obsessed with the idea of getting into a name-brand school," he said. "The universities cannot do nearly as good a job as the colleges I like."

The presidents of the 11 colleges represented at the New York meeting are discussing the creation of a statement of principles; the possibility of agreeing to reduce their use of early admission and merit aid, which is based on grades and test scores, not financial need; and whether they could commit to ensuring that at least 20 percent of entering freshmen are from working-class or poor households.

"Do we really need to be part of this arms race in merit aid?" said Colin Diver, the president of Reed College in Portland, Ore. "Do we need to participate in this scramble to increase the number of students to whom we say no?"

"I talk to lots of presidents who

would love to disarm," Diver said, "but they're afraid to do it unilaterally."

They are also considering creating a new set of statistics to measure their educational standing. The proposed standards would be available to the public, but the individual measurements would not be combined to produce an overall score, as in the ranking guides.

"There's the data, make of it what you will," said Douglas C. Bennett, president of Earlham College in Richmond, Ind., and another participant in the New York session, describing the ethos of the proposal.

"I dislike intensely and have been pretty sharply critical of efforts to rank institutions on a single scale," Bennett said.

Brian Kelly, the executive editor of *US News & World Report*, said the magazine's rankings appear to satisfy a deep hunger from students and parents for unbiased, accurate information about colleges. "I see this as a pure exercise in consumer journalism," Kelly said. "There is a tremendous demand for this. Fortunately, we have been able to create a model that's sustained itself."

"This is data that these guys collected 20 years ago and didn't make public," he added.

It is far from clear whether the college presidents can act in concert without being accused of collusive behavior, in violation of federal anti-trust laws. Two dozen elite universities signed a consent decree in 1991, in which they promised to no longer exchange information on the amount of financial aid being offered to specific students. The Justice Department had been investigating the sharing of such information as a possible antitrust violation.

Anthony W. Marx, the president of Amherst College, said he thought the group should initiate a discussion with the Justice Department about what forms of collective action might be permissible.

"Competition is important and strengthens us and can spread our net," Marx said. "But if it's designed to drive us in a way that's self-serving and not in society's interest, then that's a problem."

The catalyst for the New York meeting was Lloyd Thacker, a former college admissions officer and high school guidance counselor who argues that the aggressive strategies of corporate competition, including marketing, branding, and image making, have compromised education.

"As educators, we would not design a system that looks like this," Thacker said. "Colleges are businesses, yes they are, but they are businesses of a certain kind. They are public trusts."

"We've sharpened our business acumen by confusing what is good for business with what is good for education," he said.

Many of the presidents said one of their goals would be to instill in high school seniors a sense that which college they attend does not determine the course of the rest of their lives. "It's not God's judgment on your soul," Weisbuch of Drew University said. Not all of the presidents agree on what needs fixing in college admissions. Many of the most prestigious colleges do not offer merit aid, and some of the less selective institutions are still determined to increase their number of applicants each year, to find more good students and achieve a broader mix in their freshman classes. But many of them believe it is time to take some risks.

"If we can't behave well," said Thomas H. Parker, dean of admission and financial aid at Amherst, "then who can?"

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Undergraduate Association Goals, Fall 2006

UA Committee	Goals for Fall 2006
Executive Committee	Construct a new Web site with interactive features (votes, polls, and forums) to help the UA to better gauge student opinions.
	Create <i>undergrads-inform@mit.edu</i> , an optional list for all undergraduates to disseminate information regarding pressing campus issues that could have an effect on student life.
	Work more closely with Institute and faculty committee representatives to ensure that the UA has the pulse of the faculty and the administration.
	Increase the level of competition for Senate seats and improving voter turnout for all UA elections.
	Cultivate a stronger relationship with campus media outlets, including weekly or bi-weekly UA Q&A interviews.
	Focus resource development efforts on finding sponsors for undergraduate student groups and activities.
Committee on Athletics	Examine Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation managerial infrastructure to seek ways of improving its operation efficiency and cost effectiveness.
	Organize sports tournaments to foster and increase student participation in athletics on campus.
	Draft a report of student concerns and suggestions regarding DAPER operations and facilities for submittal to the Division of Student Life administration.
	Work to advise the UA on the athletics-related effects of maintaining or raising the amount of the Student Life Fee.
Committee on Campus Sustainability	Establish MIT as a global leader in the realm of sustainability by drawing from all schools and departments.
	Create a proposal for a built environment which generates energy, processes waste, demonstrates new innovative building technologies, supports a vibrant learning community, and lays down a path for structure retrofit.
	Investigate how MIT uses capital on campus, and evaluate how financing for sustainability initiatives might best be located, locked in, and used effectively.
	Investigate and report on MIT's ecology and use of consumables for community and research use.
	Work to make the average MIT undergraduate a more aware, compassionate and wise global citizen.
Committee on Dining	Work with Campus Dining to promote a student survey to help fill the remaining storefronts in Lobdell Food Court.
	Continue to work to improve late-night dining options on campus.
	Organize a joint event with the Graduate Student Council to publicize the diversity of dining options on campus.
	Continue to explore increased breakfast options on campus.
Student Committee on Educational Policy	Draft an advisory report compiling undergraduate feedback regarding the recommendations of the Task Force on the Undergraduate Educational Commons.
	Work with the faculty to increase awareness of term regulations and resolve violations.
	Work with faculty and administrators to demonstrably improve undergraduate advising.
	Create a "Guide to Educational Policy at MIT" for incoming freshmen.

These are the Undergraduate Association goals to be completed by the end of the 2006 fall academic term. *The Tech* will provide a mid-semester update on the UA's progress and evaluate the success of the committees at the end of the semester.

UA Committee	Goals for Fall 2006
Committee on Housing	Ensure significant student input and involvement in the transition of Ash-down House to an undergraduate dormitory.
	Provide for student involvement in the decision-making process regarding undergraduate dormitory renovations and "swing" housing.
	Investigate the needs and the future of cultural houses at MIT and how they integrate with other elements of the housing system.
	Publish reports regarding the committee's opinion on important housing issues at least twice a term.
	Investigate the practicability of returning full telephone service to dormitories.
Committee on Orientation	Work with the Office of Undergraduate Advising and Academic Programming and Student Life Orientation Planning committees to better showcase undergraduate student activities to incoming freshmen.
	Work to make the UA-supported Tuesday Night State Center "T-Party" a recurring event, clarifying how the Association of Student Activities restrictions on advertising apply to this event.
	Investigate the rescheduling of the Mathematics Diagnostic Test to Orientation Week; if necessary, work to reschedule the exam to a more amenable time slot.
	Work to support the Virtual CPW project to help admitted students get a better idea of the strength of MIT student life even if they are unable to attend Campus Preview Weekend.
	Perform annual post-Orientation feedback sessions to identify the best and worst elements of the orientation experience from the freshmen who went through it.
Committee on Student Life	Promote, staff, and administer the new Undergraduate Mentorship Program.
	Investigate and draft a report in response to student complaints regarding MIT Medical quality of service.
Committee on Student Space Planning	Conduct an inventory of existing student spaces on campus, analyze their strengths and deficiencies, and present this information on the committee Web site.
	Invite feedback from the student body on the need for new spaces or improvements that can be made to existing spaces utilizing surveys, public meetings, and Web forums.
	Develop a vision for the long-term future of the campus, and build relationships with the MIT Department of Facilities, the administration, and other key players in forming the new campus.
	Produce an official report of all the above findings for public access.
Finance Board	Improve communication between groups and liaisons (including regular Finboard Office Hours).
	Improve overall allocation usage by better leveraging past data and spending trends.
	Provide for a longer institutional memory span by making previous usage statistics more accessible.
	Investigate the creation of a capital start-up fund for new groups.
Nominations Committee	Improve communication with advocates so that, if there is a problem, the committee is always in the know.
	Train student advocates and utilize an improved Web site to track issues being discussed among the various Institute and faculty committees.
	Throw an advocate banquet to increase communication between faculty and advocates.

SOURCE: UNDERGRADUATE ASSOCIATION AND UA PRESIDENT ANDREW T. LUKMANN '07

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State Primary Election
Polling Locations

Residence	Ward and Precinct	Polling Location
Alpha Delta Phi (351 Mass. Ave.)	Ward 3, Precinct 3	Salvation Army Headquarters (402 Mass. Ave.)
Alpha Tau Omega (405 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
Ashdown House (305 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 3	Kresge Auditorium
Baker House (362 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 3	Kresge Auditorium
Bexley Hall (46-52 Mass. Ave.)	Ward 2, Precinct 3	Kresge Auditorium
Burton Conner House (410 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
Delta Kappa Epsilon (403 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
East Campus (3 Ames St.)	Ward 2, Precinct 3	Kresge Auditorium
Eastgate (60 Wadsworth St.)	Ward 2, Precinct 3	Kresge Auditorium
Edgerton House (143 Albany St.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
Green Hall (350 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 3	Kresge Auditorium
Kappa Sigma (407 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
MacGregor House (450 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
McCormick Hall (320 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 3	Kresge Auditorium
New House (471-476 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
Next House (500 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
No. 6 / Delta Psi (428 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
NW30 Residence (224 Albany St.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
Phi Beta Epsilon (400 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 3	Kresge Auditorium
pika (69 Chestnut St.)	Ward 5, Precinct 3	Morse School (40 Granite St.)
Random Hall (282-290 Mass. Ave.)	Ward 3, Precinct 3	Salvation Army HQ (402 Mass. Ave.)
Senior House (70 Amherst St.)	Ward 2, Precinct 3	Kresge Auditorium
Sidney-Pacific Residence (70 Pacific St.)	Ward 5, Precinct 3	Morse School (40 Granite St.)
Simmons Hall (229-243 Vassar St.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
Tang Residence Hall (550 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
Theta Delta Chi (372 Memorial Dr.)	Ward 2, Precinct 3	Kresge Auditorium
Westgate (540 Memorial Dr., 278-292 Vassar St., 11-15 Audrey St.)	Ward 2, Precinct 2	Kresge Auditorium
WILG (355 Mass. Ave.)	Ward 3, Precinct 3	Salvation Army HQ (402 Mass. Ave.)
Zeta Psi (233 Mass. Ave.)	Ward 3, Precinct 3	Salvation Army HQ (402 Mass. Ave.)

SOURCE: CAMBRIDGE ELECTION COMMISSION, MIT NEWS OFFICE

The state primaries will be held today. The polls will be open from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. The deadline to register for the primaries was Aug. 30. First-time voters who registered by mail are required to show identification at the polls. Acceptable ID includes photo identification, a current utility bill, a bank statement, a government check, a paycheck, or other government document that shows name and address. To verify registration, call the Cambridge Election Commission at 617-349-4361.



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September 22 – 24

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Thank You!

General Motors Corporation wishes each of its summer interns a successful school year and sincerely thanks you for your contributions this past summer. You will be missed!



*Harmeet Gill
Andrea Greb
Moneer Helu*

*Jessica Leon
Olayemi Oyebode*

*Tim Villabona
Yingxia Yang
Chuan Zhang*



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MIT Career Fair
Thursday, September 21

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Solution to Crossword

from page 6



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Want to know more? Come to an info session (**food will be served!**):

Wednesday, September 13th at 5:30pm in 32-141

Wednesday, September 20th at 5:30pm in 32-155

Tuesday, September 26th at 7:00pm in 32-155

SPORTS

Men's Soccer Wins 4-3 Overtime Thriller

By Caroline Huang
GUEST WRITER

The MIT men's soccer team overcame Tufts in a hard-fought 4-3 overtime victory last Wednesday.

Andrew M. Bishara '09 slotted a goal into the back of the net for MIT (3-1-0), converting his only shot into the game winner. MIT dominated the overtime period and prevented Tufts (0-1-1) from getting a shot on goal.

This stood in stark contrast to much of the game, which featured missed opportunities and sloppy defense by both teams. "Both teams had lapses on defense. They hit the crossbar twice and the uprights twice. We missed four point-blank scoring chances," MIT Coach Walter A. Alessi said.

Forward Alex R. Morgan '07 opened the scoring just two minutes into the game, cleaning up a loose ball at the top of the box to give MIT a 1-0 lead. Morgan eventually tallied two goals and an assist.

Despite falling behind early, Tufts (0-1-1) had abundant chances to put the game away, most notably the four shots that bounced off the goal posts. Goalkeeper Thomas S. Caldwell '09 made several tough reaction saves to keep MIT in the game.

Tufts forward Dan Jozwiak tied up the score in the 23rd minute when Daniel S. Perry '08 could not intercept a pass by Joey Stampone.

A flurry of scoring in the second half began when the Jumbos' Bob Kastoff capitalized on confusion near the MIT goal mouth in the 65th minute. However, the Engineers struck right back when Ryan T. Sheffler '07 hit a free kick that defender David Nole redirected into his own goal just four minutes later.

Jon Glass gave Tufts the lead again at 3-2 when he converted a volley off a corner kick by Andrew Drucker in the 74th minute.

With less than ten minutes left to play, MIT scored the equalizer when Morgan put a header in the back of the net. Morgan's goal came off a combination of a corner kick secondary assist by Sheffler, followed by a header assist by Matthew R. Greyson '10. This set the stage for an exciting overtime.

Alessi attributed MIT's depth and fitness as the determining factors in the win. "We have many quality players and are able to keep our top players fresh. The two players involved in the winning goal had been rested just prior to the start of overtime," he said.

The Engineers play their next home game against Amherst College on Wednesday, Sept. 20 at 4:30 p.m.

Volleyball Shows Depth in Win Over Clark

By Travis Johnson
SPORT EDITOR

Women's volleyball had the kind of regular season game that sports teams look forward to: the team won in convincing fashion and everyone got to play in a 30-21, 30-14, 30-14 sweep of Clark University.

Coach Paul Dill cycled through three different lineups that together involved all 13 Engineer players and despite some communication and passing errors, MIT (10-1, 2-0 in NEWMAC) was able to control play throughout and never trailed Clark (6-2, 1-1) beyond the early moments of each game.

MIT set the tone early when its front line used superior skill and height to block two hits in the opening minutes. The engineers ended the match with seven blocks, near their NEWMAC-leading average of 2.4 per game.

Tech pulled ahead on a streak of four consecutive points while Amanda J. Morris '08 was serving. MIT was actually more effective while serving than while receiving serve. Usually it is an advantage to receive serve because you get the first spike opportunity, but that was not the case on Saturday.

"We still need to work on our serve receive on our passing," Dill said afterwards. Passing was not always crisp for MIT on Saturday, both from the digger to the setter (Morris) and from Morris to the hitter.

Sloppy MIT play allowed Clark to stay close through the early stages of the first game, but the Engineers were too talented and disciplined to let the Cougars hang around for long and eventually opened up a 17-10 lead that they carried through to a 30-21 game win.

MIT continued to be efficient with its serving offense in the second game and had a seven point run with Katherine C. Rowe '10, a four point run with Ellen E. Sojka '08 serving, and another four point run with Carrie C. Buchanan '08 serving. The Engineers won two long points while Rowe was serving early on, demoralizing Clark. MIT eventually cruised to a 30-14 win.

The third game started to look like a blowout when MIT jumped out to a 12-1 lead. But after a Clark timeout the Cougars calmed down and played nearly even with the Engineers the rest of the way.

The closest Clark got was a 20-13 deficit, which Barden E. Cleeland '10 widened with a perfectly placed tip onto a corner of the court vacated by the Cougar defense. MIT rolled on from there, allowing only one more Clark point and closing the game and match with a 30-14 win.

Cleeland, who leads the NEWMAC in hitting percentage (0.421) and blocks (1.25), is part of a group of freshmen making a big impact early in their first season. Cleeland, Rowe, Alexandra T. May '10, Katrina M. Ellison '10, and Catherine Melnikow '10 have all played well early on.

"The freshman class has really been a nice high-impact class this year as far as not only being able to step in and do some starting roles but also just some really good role play from all of them," said Coach Dill.

So far this season MIT has played excellent volleyball, losing only four games and one extremely close match. They are playing well enough to win another NEWMAC title and will find out a lot more about where they stand this weekend when 13 top teams come to the



ROSE ZHONG '08 RECEIVES A SERVE IN THE LAST SET AGAINST THE CLARK UNIVERSITY COUGARS. THE MIT WOMEN'S VOLLEYBALL TEAM DEFEATED CLARK LAST SATURDAY, SEPT. 16 WITH SCORES 30-21, 30-14, 30-14.

MIT Invitational. The Engineers play Colby College and Bridgewater State Friday night; both games will be a rematch of last year's NCAA tournament, at which MIT beat Bridgewater State but was eliminated by Colby College.

Both Cross Country Teams Dominate Quad Meet

By Adrienne Bolger and Chris Bruce
TEAM MEMBERS

Patience and careful execution of their respective team plans brought both the men's and women's cross country teams to victory against Bates, Keene State and the University of Southern Maine last Saturday.

The race took place at a true cross country course at Twin Brook Park, ME that features hills, wooded areas, and even snakes. The course kept times slow but provided a great opportunity for strategic racing.

The MIT men raced first, executing a smart race on the tough course. By going out slow behind the other teams' runners in the early miles, they were able to pass opponents late in the race when they were hurting most. Tallying only 32 points, they ran away with the win, while the other three teams had a close battle for second with USM winning out at 65 points.

Jake J. Ruzevick '09 led the MIT harriers with his second win in eight days, covering the eight kilometer course in 26:57, the 3rd fastest time by an MIT runner on the course. Kevin F. Brulois '07 led the rest of the team, finishing fifth in 27:27. Freshman Johannes A. Schneider exhibited a great

finishing kick to finish two places and seven seconds behind Brulois, and sophomore Trevor B. Rundell '09 followed right behind, crossing the line at 27:45. Another freshman, Brandon J. Pung '10 grabbed the final scoring place for MIT, finishing 11th at 27:49.

"The fear of the hills incredulously made me go faster," said Schneider, a student from Germany who is learning to adapt not only to the collegiate racing system but also the American courses and race formats.

The women raced second using the same strategy of a conservative opening mile and dominated Keene State College and Bates College (USM did not race a women's team), scoring 25 points to Bates' 49 and Keene State's 61. After allowing the majority of the Keene State runners to take the early lead, the MIT women began moving up in the middle mile and used the course's many twists, turns, and large hills to wear out the competition until the finish of the 5,000 meter race.

"The hills were tough, but our intent was to pick up a lot of ground by running them intelligently," Rachel M. Niehuus '07 said. MIT's freshman duo of Maria J. Monks and Jacqui M. Wentz came in second (19:30) and fourth (19:57) places to lead the Engineers for the second consecutive week. "Maria and I ran together for the first mile and a half according to plan," Wentz said.

Also scoring for the Engineers were Jennifer A. Doyle '09 (20:01), Elizabeth M. Finn '09 (20:06), and Hana L. Adaniya '07 (20:16), in fifth, sixth, and eighth place respectively.

"Our performance this weekend bodes well for the season. We're learning to run in our groups," Niehuus said.

Saturday's success showed once again that the young teams possess a great deal of potential, with many freshmen and sophomores running strong races, and with the team handily beating some of its regional com-

petition. However, to earn a spot in the NCAA Championships at the end of the season, both the men and women are seeking team-wide improvement, and need to bring as many runners as possible within 45 seconds of their frontrunner so that they can compete with the top teams in the nation.

On Friday, both teams will get a

chance to more definitively assess their abilities at the National Preview Meet at Wilmington College in Ohio. The meet will feature many of the strongest teams from across the nation and also give the Engineers the opportunity to strengthen their case for an At-Large Bid to the NCAA Championships in November.



TWO COMPETITORS FROM ANOTHER COLLEGE FINISH RIGGING THEIR SAILBOAT IN PREPARATION FOR THE START OF THE FIRST A-DIVISION RACE FOR THE HATCH BROWN TROPHY. THE MIT TEAMS EARNED A COMBINED FIFTH PLACE IN THE REGATTA, WHICH TOOK PLACE THIS PAST WEEKEND.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Tuesday Sept. 19, 2006
Women's Tennis vs. Babson
4 p.m., duPont Tennis Courts
Women's Soccer vs. Fitchburg State
4 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium
Field Hockey vs. Nichols
6 p.m., Jack Barry Field

Wednesday Sept. 20, 2006
Men's Soccer vs. Amherst
4:30 p.m., Steinbrenner Stadium

